

THE CRUNCHYROLL ANIME AWARDS

FULL COVERAGE & CRUCIAL SNUBS

Special Report: Winners, Records, and Broad Daylight Robberies

The 10th annual Crunchyroll Anime Awards concluded live in Tokyo, capping off a record-breaking night that drew over 73 million global fan votes. Hosted at the Grand Prince Hotel New Takanawa, the ceremony delivered massive milestone victories, heavy genre sweeps, and, naturally, some fiercely debated snubs that have the anime community talking.

Here is your comprehensive breakdown of the big winners across the major categories, along with the most notable snubs of the night.

THE HEADLINE WINNERS

ANIME OF THE YEAR: MY HERO ACADEMIA FINAL SEASON

In a historic win that capped a decade-long superhero legacy, **My Hero Academia FINAL SEASON** took home the night's ultimate prize. Presented by global music star The Weeknd, the final season solidified its masterpiece status by beautifully wrapping up the emotional and high-stakes conflict of its central characters.

Other Wins: The franchise also scored trophies for Best Ending Sequence ("I" by BUMP OF CHICKEN) and Best Supporting Character (Katsuki Bakugo).



Winner of the Ultimate Crown: My Hero Academia takes home Anime of the Year.

FILM OF THE YEAR: DEMON SLAYER: KIMETSU NO YAIBA – INFINITY CASTLE

To absolutely no one's surprise, Ufotable's cinematic powerhouse Demon Slayer: Infinity Castle marched away with Film of the Year. Its jaw-dropping theatrical scale also earned it the award for Best Score.



Ufotable's cinematic spectacle claims the top spot for theatrical releases.

BEST NEW SERIES: GACHIAKUTA

Studio Bones clinched a massive win with Gachiakuta, taking home the coveted Best New Series crown alongside technical awards for Best Character Design and Best Background Art.





WINNERS

CATEGORY	OFFICIAL WINNER
Anime of the Year	My Hero Academia FINAL SEASON
Film of the Year	Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba – Infinity Castle
Best New Series	Gachiakuta
Best Continuing Series	One Piece
Best Original Anime	La zarus
Best Director	Akinori Fudesaka & Norihiro Naganuma (<i>The Apothecary Diaries Season 2</i>)
Best Main Character	Maomao (<i>The Apothecary Diaries Season 2</i>)
Best Supporting Character	Katsuki Bakugo (<i>My Hero Academia FINAL SEASON</i>)
Best "Must Protect" Character	Anya Forger (<i>Spy x Family Season 3</i>)
Best Animation	Solo Leveling Season 2 -Arise from the Shadow-
Best Action	Solo Leveling Season 2 -Arise from the Shadow-
Best Comedy	DAN DA DAN Season 2
Best Drama	The Apothecary Diaries Season 2
Best Romance	The Fragrant Flower Blooms With Dignity
Best Isekai	Re:ZERO -Starting Life in Another World- Season 3
Best Opening Sequence	“On The Way” by AiNA THE END (<i>DAN DA DAN Season 2</i>)
Best Ending Sequence	“I” by BUMP OF CHICKEN (<i>My Hero Academia FINAL SEASON</i>)
Best Anime Song	“IRIS OUT” by Kenshi Yonezu (<i>Chainsaw Man The Movie: Reze Arc</i>)

THE NOTABLE SNUBS: WHO GOT ROBBED?

While the winners celebrated, a few glaring omissions left the community—and live chats worldwide—completely stunned.

1. DAN DA DAN SEASON 2 MISSES THE MAJOR AWARDS

Heading into the night, **DAN DA DAN Season 2** was the undisputed heavyweight champion of the nomination phase, leading the entire pack with a staggering 20 nominations. Despite the massive global hype, incredible technical praise, and a passionate fandom, Science SARU's chaotic masterpiece missed out on *Anime of the Year*, *Best Animation*, and *Best Director*. While it did secure **Best Comedy** and **Best Opening**, walking away without a single main-stage grand prize felt like a massive shock to many.



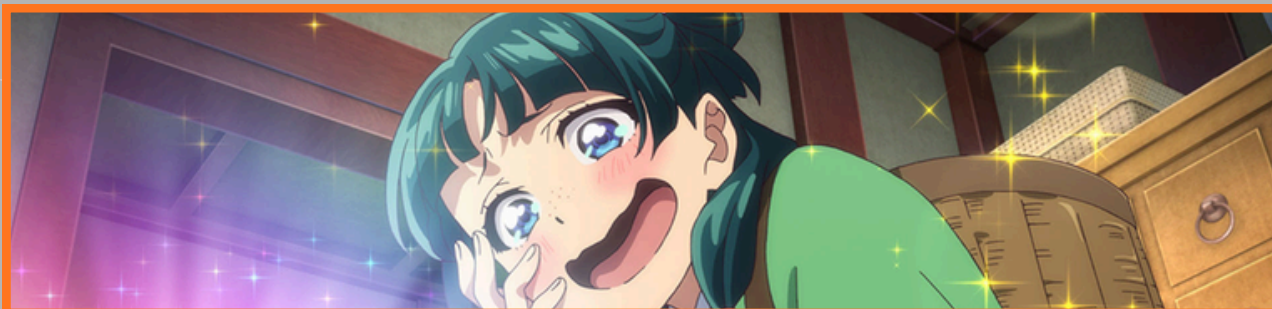
Despite leading with 20 nominations, Science SARU was locked out of the top honors.

2. TRIPLE BLOCKOUT: SAKAMOTO DAYS, ZENSHU & KAIJU NO. 8

The highly anticipated new adaptation of **Sakamoto Days** faced a surprisingly tough night, missing out on *Best New Series* to *Gachiakuta* despite containing some of the most fluid, inventive combat choreography put to screen. Technical purists were equally shocked that the highly discussed **Zenshu** completely failed to secure a single award. Compounding the evening's blockouts, the blockbuster heavyweight **Kaiju No. 8** also walked away empty-handed, completely failing to secure any awards despite its massive global viewership and heavy chart presence leading into the ceremony.

3. THE APOTHECARY DIARIES CLEANS UP DRAMA, BUT MISSES THE GRAND PRIZE

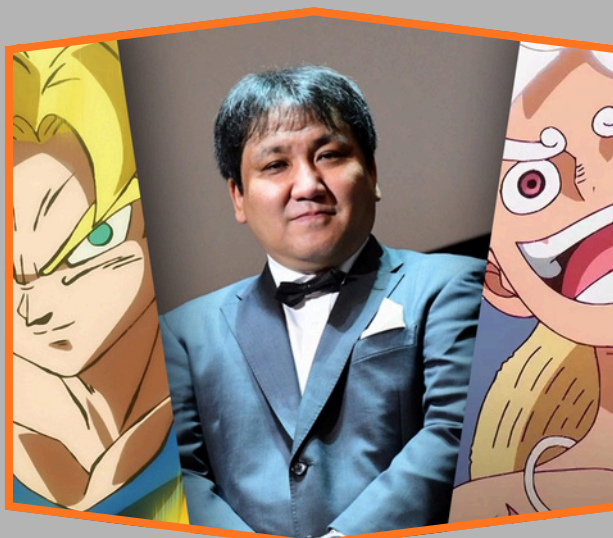
Maomao rightfully won **Best Main Character**, and the series took home **Best Drama** and **Best Director**. Because it swept almost all of the foundational storytelling categories, many fans considered it the absolute frontrunner for *Anime of the Year*. Seeing it lose the final crown to *My Hero Academia* sparked massive debate online regarding whether the awards favor long-running mainstream franchises over self-contained critical darlings.



Maomao took home Best Main Character, but the ultimate prize slipped away.

GLOBAL IMPACT AWARD

In a beautifully poignant moment, the ceremony presented a posthumous Global Impact Award to legendary director, **TATSUYA NAGAMINE**, honoring his monumental structural contributions to era-defining franchises like *One Piece* and *Dragon Ball Super*.



LOOKING AHEAD: THE RACE FOR THE NEXT YEARS

AWARDS BEGINS NOW

As the curtains close on a historic annual Crunchyroll Anime Awards in Tokyo, the global anime landscape shows no signs of slowing down. With a record-breaking 73 million fan votes cast this year, the ceremony proved that the passion of the global anime community is at an all-time high. While the debate over this year's sweeps and snubs will undoubtedly echo across social media for months to come, the clock is already ticking for the next block of masterpieces.

The race for next year's trophies is already shaping up to be an absolute bloodbath. Massive winter and spring powerhouses are already solidifying their case, and with highly anticipated new adaptations and blockbuster returns looming on the horizon, the competition will be fiercer than ever.

Will the hidden gems and critical darlings finally break through to claim the grand stage, or will mainstream shonen powerhouses continue their cultural dominance? Only time—and the fans—will tell. See you in Tokyo next year!

